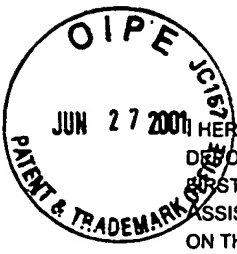


1773



HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS
FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO:
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C.
ON THIS 25TH DAY OF JUNE, 2001

BY Richard M. Beck

1998/G 026 (5587*312)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

.....
URSULA ZIEGLER ET AL

:

SERIAL NO: 09/806,123 ✓

ART UNIT:

FILED: JANUARY 10, 1999

EXAMINER:

FOR: COMPOSITE ARTICLE MADE FROM :
POLYACETAL AND FROM :
STYRENE-OLEFIN ELASTOMERS :

.....
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
JUN 29 2001
TC 1100 MAIL ROOM

SUBMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

Sir:

Enclosed with this paper is a copy of the International Preliminary Examination
Report (PCT/EP99/07277) for the related PCT application.

No fees are believed to be due. If there are any fees due in connection with the
filing of this response, including any fees required for an additional extension of time under
37 CFR 1.136, such an extension is requested and the Commissioner is authorized to
charge or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-2775.

Respectfully submitted,

CONNOLLY, BOVE, LODGE & HUTZ, LLP

By: Richard M. Beck

Richard M. Beck
Reg. No. 22,580
Tel. (302) 658-9141

RMB/alh/149959

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT
NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 72.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

TICONA GMBH
 Patent- und Lizenzabteilung
 Lyoner Strasse 38
 D-60528 Frankfurt am Main
 ALLEMAGNE

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 30 May 2001 (30.05.01)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference 1998/G026 PCT	
International application No. PCT/EP99/07277	International filing date (day/month/year) 01 October 1999 (01.10.99)
Applicant TICONA GMBH et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation made by the International Bureau of the international preliminary examination report established by the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following elected Offices requiring such translation:

JP,KR,PL,US

The following elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a translation at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

EP,CZ,RU

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report.

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

RECEIVED
JUN 29 2001
1700 MAIL ROOM

Ticona GmbH / Patente		
Vorg.		
Empf.	15. JUNI 2001	
<input type="radio"/> W.V.		
<input type="radio"/> ablegen		
<input type="radio"/> Vert. wie Vorg./angegab.		
AU	CL	RU

The International Bureau of WIPO
 34, chemin des Colombettes
 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

Pascal Pirieu

Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 1998/G026 PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP99/07277	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 01 October 1999 (01.10.99)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 02 October 1998 (02.10.98)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B32B 25/08, B29C 45/16, C08L 53/02		
Applicant TICONA GMBH		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. <input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 13 April 2000 (13.04.00)	Date of completion of this report 30 May 2000 (30.05.2000)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP Facsimile No.	Authorized officer Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP99/07277

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

☐ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description, pages 1-21, as originally filed,
pages _____, filed with the demand,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☒ the claims, Nos. 1-12, as originally filed,
Nos. _____, as amended under Article 19,
Nos. _____, filed with the demand,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____, as originally filed,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 99/07277

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1 = EP-A-0 837 097 (ADVANCED ELASTOMER SYSTEMS),
22 April 1998;

D2 = DE-C-44 34 656 (SIDLER GMBH & CO), 4 April
1996;

D3 = DE-C-44 39 766 (HOECHST AG), 4 April 1996;

D4 = EP-A-0 835 898 (TICONA GMBH), 15 April 1998.

The subject matter of Claims 1 and 10 apparently satisfies the requirements of PCT Article 33(1)-(3).

1. Claim 1 defines composite bodies made of polyacetal and a compound that contains 20-85 wt.% of styrene-olefin block copolymer composed of stiff styrene end blocks and flexible olefin middle blocks, and 15-70 wt.% of non-olefinic thermoplastic material, and at least 5 to 200 parts by weight of plasticizing oil and/or inorganic filler per 100 parts by weight styrene-olefin block copolymer and a Shore A hardness of 30-90.

2. D1 describes polyolefin block copolymers with polyurethanes, copolyesters or copolyamides and

their use for improving the compatibility of polar/non-polar thermoplastic elastomers (TPE) and, for example, polyacetals in corresponding mixtures. The block copolymer contains (a) a chemically modified polyolefin, (b) a thermoplastic polyurethane, copolyester or copolyamide, and (c) a coupling agent. Composite bodies are not described in D1. A compound as called for in the present application is neither described nor suggested.

D2 describes composite bodies produced by means of two-component injection molding. The body consists preferably of polyacetals, *inter alia*, the rubber-elastic coating out of thermoplastic elastomers. The modified styrene-olefin elastomers used in this application are neither described nor suggested.

D3 also describes composite bodies made of polyacetalene. The coatings here however are made of nitrile rubber, sulfur-containing rubber or silicon rubber. The modified styrene-olefin elastomers used in this application are neither described nor suggested.

D4 describes thermoplastic rubber composite bodies made of thermoplastic polymer (in particular polyacetals) and a component that contains rubber copolymer, filler and cross-linking agent. The modified styrene-olefin elastomers used in this application are neither described nor suggested.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP 99/07277

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

The publication number mentioned in the application on page 3, line 6, has not been replaced with the correct number (DE-A-196 41 904).